

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 58, 61, 62, and 73, and add new claims 75-78, as follows.

Listing of Claims

1-57. (CANCELED)

58. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A gutter catheter for performing annuloplasty, the gutter catheter comprising:

a distal catheter portion adapted to be received into a heart, said distal catheter portion including a distal tip and at least one sidewall defining a lumen along the catheter;

an ~~aperture~~ opening in said sidewall of said distal catheter portion and spaced proximally from said distal tip, said opening communicating with said lumen to facilitate the delivery of elements through said lumen and said ~~aperture~~ opening to the tissue of the heart;

said distal catheter portion having a shape that corresponds to the contour of the left ventricular wall of the heart, between a plane associated with the papillary muscles of the left ventricle and a plane associated with the mitral valve of the heart, whereby the distal catheter portion is shaped to correspond to the contour of the gutter of the mitral valve;

anchor delivery structure disposed in said lumen;

at least one anchor supported on said anchor delivery structure and adapted to anchor to the tissue of the heart; and

an elongate tensile member operatively coupled to said anchor;

said anchor delivery structure movable from a first position wherein said anchor is disposed within said lumen, to a second position wherein said anchor is moved through said ~~aperture~~ opening to engage the tissue of the heart.

59-60. (CANCELED)

61. (WITHDRAWN- CURRENTLY AMENDED) The gutter catheter of claim 58, further comprising a second ~~aperture~~ opening in the distal tip ~~a terminal end~~ of said distal catheter portion.

62. (WITHDRAWN- CURRENTLY AMENDED) The gutter catheter of claim 58, further comprising a second ~~aperture~~ opening in said distal catheter portion and second anchor delivery structure in said lumen, said second anchor delivery structure operable to extend a second anchor through said second ~~aperture~~ opening.

63. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The gutter catheter of claim 58, wherein said distal catheter portion is convertible between a first condition wherein said distal catheter portion has a shape that does not conform to the contour of the gutter of the mitral valve, and a second condition wherein the shape of said distal catheter portion conforms to the contour of the gutter of the mitral valve.

64-72. (CANCELED)

73. (WITHDRAWN-CURRENTLY AMENDED) The gutter catheter of claim 62, wherein said second ~~aperture~~ opening is in ~~a terminal end~~ the distal tip of said distal catheter portion.

74. (CANCELED)

75. (NEW) The gutter catheter of claim 58, wherein said anchor is slidably adjustably coupled to said tensile member.

76. (NEW) The gutter catheter of claim 58, further comprising at least a second anchor disposed within said lumen and supported on said anchor delivery structure, said second anchor being movable through said opening to engage the tissue of the heart at a distance spaced from said first anchor when said anchor delivery structure is moved to the second position.

77. (NEW) The gutter catheter of claim 76, wherein said second anchor is slidably adjustably coupled to said tensile member.

78. (NEW) The gutter catheter of claim 58, further comprising a locking element coupled to said tensile member for movement therealong relative to said anchor.